

Before the flaming forge the men of this mission stood day by day and made the anvil ring and the sparks fly. They taught the Indians to make chains; and so expert did their pupils become, that it was impossible to tell which was the original and which the copied article.

From their shops were turned the clever bear-traps that enabled them to protect the mission herds from all wild beasts. Hammers, pulleys, flatirons, scissors, plowshares, scales for measuring gold and scales measuring rations—all of these and many more are now remaining in well-preserved relics. The friars of these missions were most adroit in the making of nails. These, while made by hand, were cleverly turned, pointed at the end very much more than are the nails now made, and fixed with a sort of hook-like point, so as to enable them to clinch more securely than they would if blunt. It was necessary that the nails that held their great wooden double doors together should be well made and durable.

An old cow-bell is still on exhibition which possesses a singularly sweet quality of tone. At evening time this musical monitor led the herds home and sounded well to the ears of the expectant herdsmen. In the same collection are found also iron bands that held the hubs intact for these great clumsy vehicles used as wagons. These vehicles were called *carreta*. Bits of almost all tools that are still used are to be seen there also in the famous collection made by Don Antonio Coronel, of the city of Los Angeles, and which is now located in the Chamber of Commerce.

Notwithstanding the lack of proper implements for working iron, and in spite of poor facilities for getting perfectly gaged heat and requirements, the workmanship in these is excellent. It is done as well as that of our modern iron workers. One who visited the collection recently, said: "This is as good as any workman in my shop can turn out now."

San Fernando was famous also for the inlaying of iron with silver, which was used largely in the decoration of bits and bridles. The effect of these shining turnouts upon a prancing